



**RESOLUTION ON BECOMING A PARTNER OF THE
CROSS-BORDER MUNICIPAL COALITION FOR RAILWAY SAFETY**

Whereas the Lac-Mégantic tragedy highlights a major safety issue for many North American municipalities;

Whereas municipalities, despite all their efforts to influence the planning and development of railway activities and to obtain greater power over railway companies, have for years met with indifference on the part of decision-makers;

Whereas the activities of railway companies have changed radically in recent years in Quebec and Canada, and in the United States as well;

Whereas experts have noted a substantial increase in the quantities of hazardous materials transported by rail in Canada and the United States for some years, and are of the opinion that rail transportation of these materials is a serious trend in North America;

Whereas these new activities by the railway companies represent serious and unforeseen risks for local municipalities and populations;

Whereas North America's municipalities grew up along the railway lines and this historic proximity of local populations to railways, rail yards and train stations is an intrinsic reality in municipalities;

Whereas rail transport is a mode that deserves priority as a means of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in transportation, and a stricter regulatory framework is necessary in order to make this development possible;

Whereas municipalities are determined to assume leadership in the emerging public debate over the Lac-Mégantic tragedy;

Whereas tighter standards and regulations are urgently needed governing the activities of railway companies passing through areas under municipal responsibility; and

Whereas the suburban Illinois municipal rail coalition known as TRAC desires to respond to the appeal for mobilization issued by the Union of Quebec Municipalities and to become a partner of a CROSS-BORDER MUNICIPAL COALITION FOR RAILWAY SAFETY in order to demand review and modernization by the responsible public authorities of the standards governing activities of railway companies;

MOVED BY:

Tom Weisner, Mayor of Aurora, IL & TRAC Co-Chair

SECONDED BY:

Karen Darch, President of Barrington, IL & TRAC Co-Chair

IT IS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED ON THIS 15TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2013:

THAT the municipal rail coalition known as TRAC shall become a partner of the CROSS-BORDER MUNICIPAL COALITION FOR RAILWAY SAFETY in order to demand review, modernization and upgrading by the responsible public authorities of the standards governing activities of railway companies; and,

THAT a copy of this Resolution be transmitted forthwith to the Union of Quebec Municipalities, to the attention of Martine Painchaud, Director of International Relations.